

*Interactive Workshop
on
Sacred grove: Peoples' participation in
natural resource management
18th - 19th July 2011*

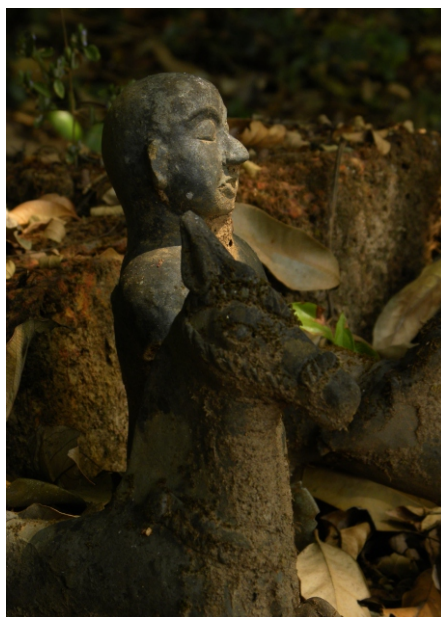
*Venue: Hotel Madhuvan, Sirsi, Uttara Kannada District
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Sacred Grove (Devarakadu) is an integral part of our rural society. This tradition is practised by our elders towards preservation of natural ecosystems. In this context, groves attained significance as a role model for community based natural resource management system.



Sacred Groves of Uttara Kannada district are distributed in various ecosystems. Groves present in forests, mangroves even in agricultural lands and villages. A large number of studies have already revealed about the floral and faunal richness of these groves, ecological functions, their socio-economic importance etc., therefore, established their significance from social as well as biological perspectives. However, rapid change in land use pattern and social contexts affect this age old tradition too, which is reflected through shrinkage in grove area, land encroachment,



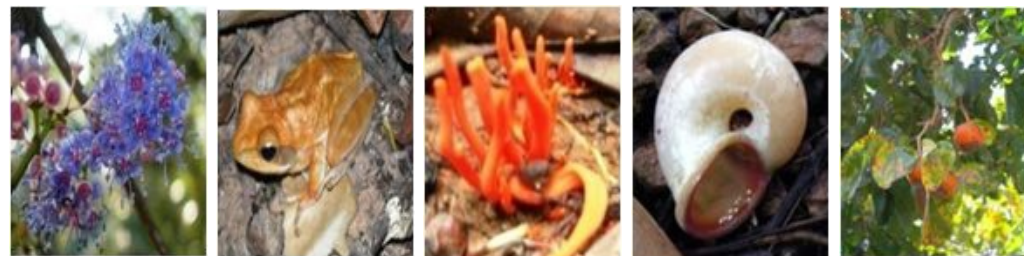
negligence in management etc. If these activities continue in current pace, soon we will lose these mini reserves of biodiversity as well as our ecological security.

In this interactive workshop, some of the pertinent issues related to Devarakadu management and conservation will be discussed with all stakeholders. Key Issues are

- Inventory and documentation
- Biodiversity and ecological assessment
- Management by village community, forest department and others
- Threats and Conservation

It is expected that, the interaction will help us to identify the problems related to management and conservation of Devarakadu, to find out suitable strategy to conserve these valuable patches at community level, to raise the awareness among people about this traditional practices and its importance in livelihood.

You are very much welcome to participate and contribute in this workshop, so to share and increase our knowledge on this age old tradition of nature conservation in India.



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